

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 L-03 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OT/TA:WGBARRACLOUGH:MEH

APPROVED BY D - CHARLES W. ROBINSON

EB - MR. GREENWALD

L - MR. TRIMBLE

E:- MR. SORENSON

S/S-O: A. OTTO

S: P. BARBIAN

----- 118566

P 170351Z APR 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 093555 TOSEC 100024

TO THE SECRETARY FROM EB: GREENWALD THROUGH MR. ROBINSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: STR TRANSMISSION OF CABLES TO
THE HILL (S/S 7608140)

1. THE PROBLEM:

FRED DENT HAS REFUSED OUR REQUEST TO SUSPEND SENDING
FOREIGN SERVICE CABLES TO THE HILL PENDING YOUR MEETING
WITH HIM TO RESOLVE THIS ISSUE.

2. BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HAVE AGREED TO MEET WITH FRED DENT
TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM OF STR'S UNILATERAL DECISION TO
MAKE FOREIGN SERVICE CABLE TRAFFIC RELATING TO THE MTN
AVAILABLE TO CONGRESSIONAL MTN ADVISORS AND THEIR
DESIGNATED STAFF. WE HAVE CONFIRMED WITH DENT'S OFFICE
THAT THERE IS NO UNDERSTANDING WITH US ON TRANSMITTING
CABLE TRAFFIC TO THE HILL AND THEY ARE PROCEEDING TO MAKE
CABLES AVAILABLE SOLELY ON THEIR OWN AUTHORITY AND JUDGMENT
AS TO WHAT SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE. FURTHERMORE, STR
WAS UNWILLING TO AGREE TO OUR REQUEST ON APRIL 15 THAT THEY

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SUSPEND SENDING SUCH CABLES TO THE HILL PENDING DENT'S

MEETING WITH YOU. WE HAVE, THEREFORE, STOPPED THE TRANSMISSION OF ALL CABLES TO STR EFFECTIVE FRIDAY, APRIL 16 EXCEPT FOR THOSE TO AND FROM THE MTN DELEGATION IN GENEVA

I URGE THAT YOU MEET WITH DENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IF THIS PROBLEM DRAGS OUT, OUR STOPPING OF HIS ACCESS TO CABLES FROM OUR POSTS ABROAD WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BECOME KNOWN TO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE FINANCE AND HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEES. WE SHOULD TRY TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM, THEREFORE, BEFORE DENT HAS A CHANCE TO BUILD UP CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT.

THE DANGEROUS PRECEDENT DENT'S UNILATERAL ACTION SETS FOR INCREASING CONGRESSIONAL DEMANDS FOR ACCESS TO FOREIGN SERVICE CABLES IS CLEAR FROM A LETTER OF APRIL 5 FROM SENATORS LONG AND RIBICOFF TO CHUCK ROBINSON. NOTING THE PROCEDURE BETWEEN STR AND THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR MAKING CABLES AVAILABLE, LONG AND RIBICOFF ASK US TO MAKE AVAILABLE "ALL CABLES INVOLVING TRADE RELATED MATTERS IN THE CIEC" AND "POLICY POSITION PAPERS PREPARED FOR THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE CIEC." WE PLAN TO REFUSE THE REQUEST FOR CABLES AND POSITION PAPERS ON CIEC MATTERS, OFFERING INSTEAD FULL BRIEFINGS BEFORE AND AFTER CIEC MEETINGS, AND WRITTEN SUMMARIES OF IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS.

3. RECOMMENDATION:

THAT YOU AUTHORIZE ME TO SET UP A MEETING BETWEEN YOU AND FRED DENT AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY YOUR SCHEDULE PERMITS.

APPROVE:

DISAPPROVE:

DATE:

TIME:

4. CLEARED BY L - MR. TRIMBLE; E - MR. SORENSON;

S: P. BARBIAN

ROBINSON

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